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LETTER DATED 8 JULY 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF TOGO TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the Final Communiqué on the Sierra Leone peace talks in Lomé, adopted on 7 July 1999 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kodjo MENAN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

Final communiqué on the Sierra Leone peace talks in Lomé

[Original: English]

1. The Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone, represented by H.E. Alhaji Dr AHMAD TEJAN KABBAH, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, on one side, and the United Revolutionary Front, Sierra Leone, represented by Corporal FODAY SAYBANA SANKOH, Leader of RUF, on the other side, on 7 July 1999, have signed a Peace Accord in Lome, Togo, during a solemn ceremony under the auspices of H.E. GNASSINGBE EYADEMA, President of the Republic of Togo, current Chairman of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), in presence of their Excellencies:

- BLAISE COMPAORE, President of Burkina Faso, and Chairman of OAU;
- DAHKPANAH DR. CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR, President of the Republic of Liberia,
- OLUSEGUN OBASANJO, President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- JAMES VICTOR GBEHO, Minister of Foreign Affairs, representing His Excellency JOHN JERRY RAWLINGS, President of the Republic of Ghana;
- YOUSSOUFOU BAMBA, Minister of State at the Foreign Ministry in charge of International Cooperation, representing His Excellency HENRI KONAN BEDIE, President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire.

2. Also present were:

- Mr. ROGER LALOUPO, Representative of the ECOWAS Executive Secretary;
- Ambassador FRANCIS G. OKELO, Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations;
- Ms ADWOA COLEMAN, Representative of the Organisation of African Unity;
- Dr. MOSES K.Z. ANAFU, Representative of the Commonwealth of Nations;

- Mr. PAUL HARVEY, Special Representative of the United Kingdom;

- His Excellency Mr. AWAD Y. BUHAWLA, Secretary of the People Bureau of the Libyan Arab Socialist and People's Jamahiriya, representing the Jamahiriya;

- His Excellency Mr. JOSEPH H. MELROSE, Jr, Ambassador of the United States to Sierra Leone.

3. The Lome Peace Agreement is the outcome of intense multiple consultations and negotiations between the duly mandated Sierra Leonean Plenipotentiaries, assisted by a Mediation Committee comprising member States of the ECOWAS Committee of Seven on Sierra Leone, the ECOWAS Executive Secretary; Representatives of UN, OAU, Commonwealth, and observers of Libya Arab Socialist People's Jamahiriya; US and UK.

4. On the political front, the two parties have agreed on the following:

- Immediate release of Corporal FODAY SAYBANA SANKOH, Leader of the RUF/SL;

- Liberation of prisoners of war and non combatants;

- Transformation of RUF ... into a political party;

- Enabling Members of the RUF/SL to hold Public Office and their appointment to parastatal posts;

- Enabling Members of RUF/SL to join Government;

- Amnesty to be granted to Corporal FODAY SANKOH and to combatants, exiles and other members of RUF/SL for reasons related to the conflict;

- Establishment of a Commission for the Consolidation of Peace;
- Establishment of a Commission to review the 1991 Constitution;
- Establishment of an Independent National Electoral Commission to prepare general elections.

5. With regard to military issues, the two parties agreed on the following:

- The observance and the strengthening of the cease-fire;
- Adaptation of ECOMOG mandate to new exigencies of peace and national reconciliation;
- Security guarantees;
- Encampment, disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration of combatants;
- Restructuring and training of the Armed Forces of Sierra Leone and
- Withdrawal of mercenaries.

6. Concerning humanitarian issues, an agreement was reached on the best ways to :

- Enable humanitarian organisations to carry out their activities in favour of the needy populations and war victims;
- Guaranty the security of refugees and displaced persons;
- Address specific needs of ex-child combatants

- Mobilize appropriate financial and technical resources for purposes of rehabilitation, reconstruction and development in Sierra Leone.

7. With regard to human rights, the two parties have also agreed:

- To protect, guarantee and promote civil and political liberties, and on the other hand, and to reinforce mechanisms of addressing grievances of people in respect of alleged violations of basic human rights, on the other.

8. On socio-economic issues, the two parties agreed to share responsibilities in this area, and in this regard, have established a Commission for the Management of Strategic Resources, National Reconstruction and Development, which is placed under the chairmanship of Corporal FODAY SAYBANA SANKOH, with the status of Vice-President of the Republic.

9. The Government of Sierra Leone and the RUF/SL have expressed satisfaction with the will demonstrated by the two parties to reach an agreement in the interest of peace, and with the quality of work accomplished by the Mediation Committee and the climate of serenity, of forthrightness and mutual understanding which characterised the peace talks.

10. They have also expressed satisfaction with the contribution of the members of the civil society and the Inter-religious Council of Sierra Leone.

11. The Government of Sierra Leone and RUF/L have welcomed the important role played by ECOWAS, in particular, its current Chairman, H.E. GNASSINBGE EYADEMA, whose constant involvement and perseverance have been instrumental in bridging the gap between the positions of the two sides and have made possible the opening and the fruitful conclusion of the peace talks.

12. The two parties have agreed to scrupulously adhere to the provisions of the present Agreement in the highest interest of the Sierra Leonean people and nation.

13. In this regard, they have reaffirmed their firm determination to work together to build Sierra Leone with more justice and unity, in peace and security for all.

14. They have, furthermore, expressed their gratitude to humanitarian organizations and the international community for their invaluable assistance to Sierra Leone during this very trying period of its history, and have renewed their appeal to them to continue providing multi-sectoral assistance to the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Sierra Leone.

15. At the conclusion of the ceremony, H.E. Alhaji Dr.AHMAD TEJAN KABBAH, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone and Corporal FODAY SAYBANA SANKOH, Leader of RUF/SL have expressed profound gratitude to President GNASSINGBE EYADEMA for his continued involvement and determination for the cause of peace, stability and security in the sub-region, and have expressed their gratitude for the positive initiatives he has taken to help Sierra Leoneans to resolve their differences.

16. Furthermore, President KABBAH and Corporal SANKOH have also expressed sincere thanks to President GNASSINGBE EYADEMA, to the Government and people of Togo for the warm welcome, the brotherly hospitality and all the attention accorded to them during their stay in Togo.

17. They have also expressed their sincere gratitude to the Excellencies Presidents BLAISE COMPAORE, President of Burkina Fasoand Chairman of OAU, DAHKPANAH Dr. CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR, President of Liberia, OLUSEGUN OBASANJO, President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as well as representatives of their Excellencies JOHN JERRY RAWLINGS, President of the Republic of Ghana and HENRI KONAN BEDIE, Presdient of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire who travelled to Lome.

18. Their Excellencies GNASSINGBE EYADEMA, BLAISE COMPAORE, DAHKPANAH Dr. CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR and OLUSEGUN OBASANJO have expressed their satisfaction with the happy conclusion of the Lome Peace Talks on Sierra Leone.

19. In this regard, they have expressed satisfaction with the efforts and the sacrifices made by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) for the restoration of peace and national reconcilitation in Sierra Leone..

20. They have appealed to the Government of Sierra Leone, the Revolutionary United Front of Sierra Leone, as well as to the people of Sierra Leone as a whole to work together to build an united and properous Sierra Leone in newly found peace and understanding.

Done in Lomé this seven day of the month of July 1999
in twelve (12) original texts in English and French, each text being equally authentic.

ALHAJI DR AHMAD TEJAN KABBAH

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF SIERRA LEONE

CORPORAL FODAY SAYBANA SANKOH
LEADER OF THE REVOLUTIONARY
UNITED FRONT OF SIERRA LEONE

HIS EXCELLENCY GNASSINGBE EYADEMA
PRESIDENT OF THE TOGOLESE REPUBLIC,
CHAIRMAN OF ECOWAS

HIS EXCELLENCY BLAISE COMPAORE
PRESIDENT OF BURKINA FASO
AND CHAIRMAN OF OAU

HIS EXCELLENCY DAHKPANAH
DR. CHARLES GHANKAY TAYLOR
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

HIS EXCELLENCY OLUSEGUN OBASANJO
PRESIDENT, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMED
FORCES OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA

HIS EXCELLENCY JAMES VICTOR GBEHO,
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA

HIS EXCELLENCY YOUSSOUFOU BAMBA
MINISTER OF STATE AT THE
FOREIGN MINISTRY IN CHARGE OF
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
OF COTE D'IVOIRE

Mr. Roger LALOUPO
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ECOWAS
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Ambassador Francis G. OKELO
SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE UNITED NATIONS
SECRETARY GENERAL

Ms. Adwoa COLEMAN
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

Dr. Moses K.Z. ANAFU
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS